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Docket No.: 03404/000K075-USO
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masato Takahashi et al.

Application No.: 09/998,621

Confirmation No.:

Filed: November 30, 2001

Art Unit: 3727

For: SEALING ELEMENT, HERMETIC
CONTAINER AND SEALING METHOD
THEREOF

Examiner: R. A. Hylton

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAY 17 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700


Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 (37 CFR 1.97(b)(4)).

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language documents is enclosed.

A copy of each document on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

{W:\03404\000K075000\00182914.DOC  }

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: May 11, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Edward J. Ellis

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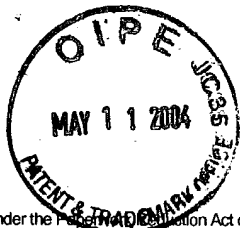
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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	09/998,621	
			Filing Date	November 30, 2001	
			First Named Inventor	Masato Takahashi	
			Art Unit	3727	
			Examiner Name	R. A. Hylton	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	03404/000K075-USO

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP-08-266411	10-15-1996	Toshiba Home Technol Corp.		
	BB	JP-10-192145	07-28-1998	Twinbird Corp.		
	BC	JP-11-189267	07-13-1999	Mitsubishi Materials Corp.		
	BD	JP-59-762	01-06-1984	Sato Seikan K.K.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

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